

United States Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

230 North 1st Avenue #303 · Phoenix, AZ 85003-1706 (602) 280-8850 · (602) 280-8897 FAX · <u>www.nass.usda.gov/az</u>

CONTACT: Steven Manheimer, Director or nass-az@nass.usda.gov

Press Release Announcement – September 12, 2008 - For Immediate Release Arizona Upland Cotton Forecast Down 26 Percent From 2007

Arizona's upland cotton harvested acreage is estimated at 128,000 acres, down 24 percent from a year ago. As of September 1, yield is forecast at 1,425 pounds per acre, 44 pounds less than in 2007. Production is forecast at 380,000 bales, down 26 percent from last year. Cotton bolls have opened on 60 percent of the acreage as of August 31, up 7 percentage points from the 5-year average. Cotton condition varies from fair to excellent.

American-Pima cotton harvested area, at 1,000 acres, is 1,500 acres less than last year's 2,500 acres. Production is expected to total 2,000 bales, a decrease of 2,600 bales from a year ago. Pima yield, expected at 960 pounds per acre, is up 77 pounds from a year ago. All cotton production is forecast at 382,000 bales, 26 percent lower than the previous year.

At the U.S. level, all Cotton production is forecast at 13.8 million 480-pound bales, up 1 percent from last month but down 28 percent from last year. Yield is expected to average 849 pounds per harvested acre, up 7 pounds from last month but down 30 pounds from the record yield in 2007. Upland cotton production is forecast at 13.4 million 480-pound bales, up 1 percent from last month but 27 percent below 2007. Producers in Texas are expecting increased yields from last month, while Georgia producers expect lower yields due to the effects of Tropical Storm Fay. Upland growers in Arkansas and Oklahoma are expecting record high yields, surpassing the records set in 2004 and 2007, respectively. American-Pima production is forecast at 459,000

bales, down 46 percent from last year. Producers expect to harvest 7.83 million acres of all cotton and 7.66 million acres of upland cotton, both down 25 percent from last year and the lowest harvested acreage since 1983. American-Pima harvested area is expected to total 170,000 acres, down 41 percent from 2007.

####